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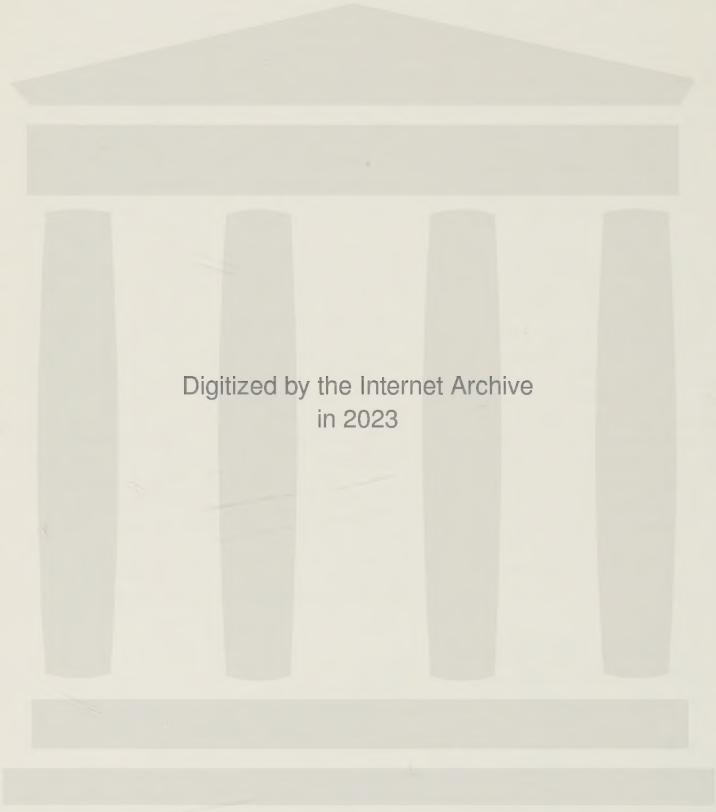
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THE NEW ZEALAND GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

The New Zealand Geographical Society was founded officially in Wellington towards the end of 1944. Its real foundation, however, took place in Christchurch in 1939 when a group of enthusiasts formed what is now the Canterbury Branch of the Society. Their lead was followed in February 1944 in Wellington, and further branches came into being in Auckland and Dunedin early in 1945.

The aims of the Society as stated in the constitution are 'to promote and stimulate the study of geography'. These are the aims of more than one society in the world, and the New Zealand Geographical Society is particularly concerned with geography in New Zealand. It is therefore the Society's policy to stimulate geographical studies about New Zealand and matters closely related to the Dominion.

The Society undertakes the publication of a journal which at present appears twice a year. Branches of the Society organise lectures, study groups, and excursions, and encourage their members to prepare matter for publication in the Society's journal, the *New Zealand Geographer*. Contributions from overseas writers and those who are not members of the Society are also encouraged.

The Society also publishes half-yearly the New Zealand Geographical Society's Record of Proceedings of the Society and its branches, known as the *Record*. This, in addition to summaries of addresses given to branches, contains book reviews, film reviews, and contributions of a lighter nature than those appearing in the *New Zealand Geographer*.

The Council in 1947 decided to proceed with the publication in book form of a series of *New Zealand Geographical Society Special Publications*. Moneys have been set aside for this purpose, and as material of high quality and real value becomes available it will be published. The first special publication, *New Zealand Weather and Climate*, edited by B. J. Garnier appeared in 1950 as the first number in the Miscellaneous Series. The latest publication in this series is a volume of essays, *Land and Livelihood: Geographical Essays in Honour of George Jobberns*, edited by Murray McCaskill and published in 1962. In addition, the publication of a Research Series is planned.

Membership of the Society is open to all persons interested in the aims of the Society. Full details of membership will be sent on request by the Secretary, New Zealand Geographical Society, Department of Geography, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, 1.

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